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SERMON  
IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON!  
CONFESSIONS OF A SANCTIFIED SINNER

*Exodus 1:8*  
*Context*  
*Acts 9:1-6*

It's time to move on from four perspectives:

1. Old Testament
2. New Testament
3. Black people
4. You

**Old Testament Perspective**

"Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph." Exodus 1:8

"Then, eventually, a new king came to the throne of Egypt who felt no obligation to the descendants of Joseph." Exodus 1:8

**Change Happens To All Of Us**

Change of administrations

Democrats to Republicans

New President

New boss

**The Hebrews**

Overnight, they went from friends to enemies.

From bigshots to bondage.

It was time to move on.

It was not the first time the Hebrews had to move on.

It would not be the last.

Abraham from Haran to Canaan.

His father, Tera from Ur of the Chaldees to Haran.

Lot was told : "Don't look back."

European dates the Hebrews had to move on:

England — 1290

France — 1182, 1306 and 1394

Spain — 1492

Portugal — 1496

Nazi Germany — 1933

### **New Testament Perspective**

Not so much moving on physically as moving on spiritually.

Into a different orientation.

Change of attitude.

From fighting to loving.

From "pack your bags" to "change your mind."

At the Ninth Chapter of the Book of Acts, beginning at the first Verse, we read about a man named Saul. Chapter 9 of the Book of Acts is popularly known as the conversion of Saul.

Saul was the hitman for the Hebrews.

He had already been involved in the death of Stephen, the first deacon. (Chapter 8)

Now, at Chapter 9, Verse 2, he is on his way to Damascus, Syria to terrorize Jews for Jesus.

But, at Verse 3, on the road to Damascus, something happened.

The hitman for the Hebrews took a direct hit!

The hired gun got blown away!

At Verse three: *He saw the light.*

At Verse four: The light was so bright it knocked him off his feet.

At Verse six: The voice behind the light told him "Get up! *It's time to move on!*"

At Verse eighteen: When he did get up, he was a new man

No longer a *killer* of the followers of Jesus, *he was now one of them!*

He had been converted.

He was no longer a hitman for the Hebrews; he was now an Apostle for the Lord!

*Somebody* ought to say "Amen"!

It was time to move on, spiritually!

He had seen the light.

He had had a change of attitude; a change of mind, a change of heart.

He had joined the opposition. He had joined the other side.

On the outside you couldn't tell the difference. He still *looked* like the same person.

When he knocked on the door where Jews for Jesus were having their prayer meeting, they wouldn't let him in.

At Verse twenty-six: “[A]nd when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.” Let’s imagine the conversation at the door.

Saul says: “Let me in. I want to join your prayer meeting.”

The guardian of the door says: “There’s no meeting up in here, sir, we’re just eatin’ some chicken!”

Saul says, “But I hear people praying!”. “This *must* be a prayer meeting.” The guardian says: “Nobody is praying up in here, sir, somebody just *happened* to say *Hallelujah*, this is some good chicken!” Now, go away!”

And they slammed the door in his face.

Adam, the first man, was told: “get up off your hands and knees!” “It’s time to move on. Quit *monkeying* around! It’s time to move on.”

Heaven is a state of mind, not a physical location.

You can be in heaven anywhere, at any time, under any circumstances. All it takes is a change of heart; a change of mind; a change of attitude!

I’m in heaven right now.

If you are in heaven right now, spread your arms and look up to the Lord from whence cometh our help.

Sometimes, even New Testament people have to move on .

Further on in the Book of Acts at Chapter 19, verses 8-12, Paul is preaching at the synagogue in Ephesus. But when some speak evil of his way, he departs from there and separates, moving across the street to the school of Tyrannus and the gospel was then heard in

all of Asia. It was time to move on. You don't stay where you always have to fight.

It's stupid to come to a church where you get your feelings hurt every Sunday! When *you* openly speak evil, that's when *we* can no longer live together. Truth sometimes separates. Sometimes, you've got to have division before you can have peace!

If Paul had remained in the synagogue with those who spoke evil, the gospel would *not* have been heard in all of Asia! It was time to move on!

### **Black People's Perspective**

What would it be like if Black people moved on into a change of heart, into a new attitude?

What if we turned *off* the TV and opened *up* a book?

There are less than 1,000 jobs in professional basketball in the entire United States of America. But there are 45,000 doctors in New York State alone. There are 150,000 lawyers in the State of New York. There are 34,000 certified public accountants in New York State. There are less than one thousand professional basketball players (men and women) in the entire country.

What if we *stopped* dribbling and started studying? What if we bought our kids *books* instead of \$150.00 sneakers that wear out in less than 6 months?

What if we just stopped buying the *Daily News*? Instead of looking up the number in the *Daily News* every day, why don't we look at the Editorial Page, which tells us every single day in one form or another "Black people are no good!"

And that goes *double* for the *New York Post*!

Spike Lee used to end all of his early movies with the words "wake up!"

Anybody who reaches in their pocket and takes out their hard-earned cash that they had to work all week for, and gives it to the *Daily News*, is either *asleep, crazy or drunk!*

Anybody who does that doesn't deserve to receive the wonderful inheritance *I* am going to receive. They *need* to be in chains, *carrying* a heavy load, *working* from sun up to sun down, from can see to can't see.

That's because they are already *mental* slaves, giving aid and comfort to the enemy.

We, you and I, Black America, spend more money than China. We spend as much as Canada. But we give it all to the other man!

Some of us don't even know who the enemy is. Some of us don't even know there's a war going on. Slavery was a declared war by Europeans against Africans.

Segregation was a declared war by European-Americans against African-Americans.

This is not hatred. This is *history!*

And the war is still going on today!

What we have today is a massive, invisible *undeclared* war by European-Americans against African-Americans.

If you don't think there's a war going on against Black people, just get in your car and drive around the Black community. There are bomb craters in the roadways of the Black community, potholes the government refuses to fix in our community.

They are dropping bombs of drugs and guns on us, and some of us are paying them to do it, by giving our own money to the enemy.

Every rapper, every hip hop artist, every entertainer, every athlete needs a lawyer, an accountant and a financial advisor. Why couldn't it be you? Or somebody you know?

What if we went to law school or to business school? What if we all decided as a people to finish at least high school or college?

It's time for Black people to move on up! It's movin' on up time.

You say you want nothing to do with this place? You're saving your money to retire back home? But you've been here 30 years! You may never make it back! And your children are definitely not going! *This* is their home! It's the only home they know!

So why don't you take part in what's happening here? You can still retire to wherever you want. But, in the meantime, have a voice and a vote where you are now! It's time to move on!

What if everybody in this room was a registered voter and actually showed up to vote? Why, we could turn this town upside down! We could get rid of so and so, and so and so, and elect our *own* people!

It's time to move on!, for us as a people!

**You**

Now, what about you as an individual?

It's time for you to move on, just like Abraham, just like Lot, just like Moses, just like Saul. It's time for you to move on, or you wouldn't be in here today.

Move on out of that *job* (where you get your spirit wounded every day). Move on and finish that *degree* you started years ago and dropped out from. Move on out of that *relationship* that died seven long years ago and never got a Christian burial. It's just lingering around like a ghost and it stinks like a corpse. It's time to move on! You're *dying* a slow death from unending daily misery. It's time to *move on*, *move out*, and *move on up*. People are asking:

“Why does she put up with that? He doesn’t have to take that! Why?” Move on out of that *neighborhood* which *was* hospitable but which is now intolerable. Or, maybe you just need, like Saul, to move on into a new attitude, a new frame of mind, a new heart.

*Stop* hating and start loving.

*Stop* regretting and start hoping.

*Stop* moaning and start building.

But, whatever you do, *move* before you get evicted!

If you just stand still when it’s time to move on, you’ll either get left behind or run over!

It’s time to move on!

### **Finale**

It’s *time* to move on!

It’s time for *you* to see the light.

It’s time for *you* to get your act together!

You say there’s a new king who knows not Joseph? That’s okay.

It’s time to move on!

There’s a Promised Land in your future!

It’s time to become an Apostle for the Lord.

Leave old Egypt and don’t look back. There’s a Promised Land in your future!

It’s time to move on.

Now, it’s hard traveling alone. It’s easier to travel as part of a group that’s going your way. It’s safer. We’re travelling to the Promised Land, and it’s time to move on. Do you want to come with us?

Then stand up *now*.

You can't get to the Promised Land sitting down!

It's time to move on!

*My* life is a victory march. Sure, there have been some innings where I got shut out. Sometimes, I took a swing of the bat and didn't hit nothing. But, for the believer, even death is swallowed up in victory!

Don't be scared! You won't be alone. God is always with you. Take somebody by the hand and tell that person, "You're not alone! God loves you and so do I!"

Quitters never win. *My* life is a victory march and so can yours be! Those who know the Lord are never alone. Because He promised never to leave us; never to leave us alone!

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